



Stakeholder Summary Public Outreach for the 2015-2016 Budget

Public Engagement

People interested in following and/or providing input for the development of the 2015-2016 Budget will have many opportunities to participate in the process between now and December, when the City Council will approve the budget, including:

Budget 15/16 Website is available at: <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/2015-16-Budget-Involvement.htm>

- The website provides links and contact information for anyone interested in further information.

Statistically Valid Budget and Performance Surveys

- **Budget Survey:**
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/Finance/2014_Budget_Survey_Final.pdf
In preparation for the new budget, the City conducts a budget survey each biennium. The survey is designed to provide a statistically valid tool to enhance the City's knowledge of residents' perceptions about the City and to better understand community priorities and expectations regarding City services. This survey has been conducted every other year since 1998.
- **Performance Survey:**
http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/Finance/2014_Perf_Measures_Rpt.pdf
The methodology for the 2013 Performance Survey is the same as in the Budget Survey. Respondents were screened to ensure that they were a head of household in Bellevue who was 18 years or older.

Neighborhood Leadership Gathering

- On February 27, 2014 the Neighborhood Outreach team hosted a Neighborhood Leadership Gathering which assembled over 60 neighborhood leaders, invited to share their priorities for the City budget and their neighborhoods for the coming year. The full report can be found attached to this cover memo or at:
<http://www.bellevuewa.gov/2015-16-Budget-Involvement.htm>

Public Hearings in May, July, and November

- The City Council holds three public hearings on the 2015-2016 budget to provide stakeholders multiple opportunities to officially comment on the operating and capital budgets. Two public hearings, one in May and the other in July, are held prior to the submission of the Preliminary Budget to the Council, and offer residents and other stakeholders the opportunity to let the Council know what issues are important to them. The third hearing, in November after the Council receives the Preliminary Budget, provides interested parties the chance to address new budget proposals and comment on significant budget issues.
- Summaries of the May and July public hearings are presented in this section.



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Public comment at all Council meetings

- The public is welcomed and encouraged to speak during public comment at all regular Council meetings. The Council agendas are posted on the Council website.

Boards and Commissions: http://www.bellevuewa.gov/boards_commissions.htm

- Five city boards and commissions provide input on the budget process.
 - Transportation Commission: provides funding recommendations on the Capital Investment Program (CIP) budget.
 - Environmental Services Commission: provides funding recommendations on both the operating and CIP Utilities budgets as well as rate recommendations.
 - Parks and Community Services Board: provides funding recommendations on the CIP budget.
 - Human Services Commission: provides funding recommendations on allocations to human services (City/CDBG) agencies.
 - Arts Commission: provides funding recommendations on arts acquisitions as well as allocations to arts groups.

E-mail/Contact Councilmembers: Council@bellevuewa.gov

Comments to the full Council may be emailed to the address above or submitted by phone to the Council Office at 452-452-7810 (to leave message).

E-mail/Contact Finance: FinanceDepartment@bellevuewa.gov

- **Presentations to Neighborhood Groups, Business Associations and Others**
The Finance Department will give presentations about the budget upon request to any group. Please contact us (425-452-5281) or at the email above.
- **Information Provided Upon Request**
Finally, the Finance Department responds to any communication received regarding the budget process. Please contact us (425-452-5281 or at the email above).

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PUBLIC HEARINGS TESTIMONY (paraphrased)

May 19, 2014 (source: adopted Council Meeting Minutes) (paraphrased)

1. Patrick Bannon, President of the Bellevue Downtown Association, expressed support for the Council's Vision and Strategic Target Areas document. He encouraged the Council to continue to support investments that provide opportunities for growth and economic health. He noted that economic activity on approximately two percent of the City's land area, the Downtown, generates roughly a quarter of the City's major tax revenues.

Mr. Bannon said the BDA will look for a continued emphasis on transportation investments including strategic ways to improve roadway capacity, reduce congestion, and support a multimodal transportation network. Public safety and parks remain huge priorities for the Downtown and the overall community. Mr. Bannon encouraged the continued implementation of elements of the Downtown Transportation Plan and Downtown Livability Initiative. He asked the City to continue to make wise investments in civic events that elevate the City's cultural community and produce signature events. Mr. Bannon thanked the Council for its work.

2. Pastor Brad Beeman said he lives on 49th Street SE, which has had a tremendous amount of police activity over the past week. He commended the professionalism of the Police Department and thanked the City for its assistance. Pastor Beeman said he serves a church on Newport Way near the library. He expressed concern regarding pedestrian and bicyclist safety along Newport Way. He said sidewalks are urgently needed.
3. Reece Velton, a high school student, spoke to the need for completing the sidewalks along Newport Way to provide safe connections between the South Bellevue Community Center, Eastgate Park, United Methodist Church, the library, and neighborhood schools. He said no one feels safe walking along the road. He has observed mothers walking their children single file because there is no room even for preschoolers to walk two abreast.
4. Vicki Heck expressed support for building a connecting sidewalk along Newport Way. She works at the Newport Way library and lives just one mile from there. However, she does not walk because there is not a safe walking route. Ms. Heck noted neighbors in the audience and asked the Council to make the Newport Way sidewalk project the highest priority in upcoming budget decisions. She observed that the project falls within all or most of the City's seven Budget One outcomes. She thanked the Council for listening to residents.

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July 7, 2014 (source: adopted Council Meeting Minutes) (Paraphrased):

Members of the East Bellevue Community Council provided testimony on a variety of projects and issues:

1. Bill Capron, East Bellevue Community Council (EBCC) Chair, commented on three capital priorities for East Bellevue.
 - The first is a sidewalk and bike lanes project on SE 16th Street between 148th and 156th Avenues. He noted he walked through the area earlier in the day. On the south side of the street, there is a sidewalk that does not go all the way through. On the north side of the street, there is a sidewalk that includes a paved pathway which is not very well maintained and contains blackberry bushes and trip hazards. Mr. Capron said the Community Council does not support the proposed SE 16th Street improvements and does not believe there is much community support for the project as well. However, the existing sidewalks and pathway could certainly use some maintenance. In addition Mr. Capron noted that Puget Sound Energy has proposed SE 16th Street as a power line route. Mr. Capron said the Community Council feels it would not be good for the City to complete sidewalk improvements and then have PSE come in and put a power line project through there. At the very least, if the projects occur, PSE and the City should work together to coordinate the work. Mr. Capron reiterated the need for sidewalk maintenance on SE 16th Street. He also said the 148th Avenue SE corridor is well maintained with grass and landscaping.
 - The second project noted by Mr. Capron is the 148th Avenue traffic light project, which includes lights at SE 8th Street, Main Street, and NE 8th Street. This project was at one time considered a high priority, safety related project. When the bids were opened the costs were over the engineer's estimate by an uncomfortable amount. Mr. Capron observed that, since then, the project has been downgraded from safety related to maintenance. He disagrees with that and believes it is still safety related. He said the project has not changed and the safety has not changed. If the project is to be complete as maintenance, the Community Council would like to see a schedule for the work and would like it to be completed in a timely manner. The Community Council supports the project and would like to have the traffic signals.
 - Mr. Capron said the third project of concern is sidewalk maintenance within the EBCC's boundary. Many, if not most, of the sidewalks are at or past their useful life. The Community Council would like to see funding to repair and properly maintain sidewalks.
2. Steve Kasner, East Bellevue Community Councilmember, said a section of Lake Hills Boulevard between 148th and 140th Avenues has been partially maintained and was never completed. Citizens have attended EBCC meetings to ask about the status of that project.

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He noted that PW-19 is the major CIP traffic maintenance item. He would like to see proposed funds and potentially additional funds dedicated to solve this problem elsewhere throughout Bellevue, including the Newport Hills sidewalk project.

Mr. Kasner noted that many subcontractors operate within Bellevue for the overlay program, which results in an inconsistent quality of paving and is a real problem. While potholes are well maintained, he observed that City streets do not look as well as they did 10 years ago.

Members of the city's Transportation Commission also offered testimony:

3. Vic Bishop, Transportation Commissioner, requested Council support of the Bellevue Transit Master Plan. He said this has been a lengthy planning and public engagement process that began in July 2012. He noted that certain individuals have concerns about the evaluation of the transit running way projects (e.g., conversions to or new HOV lanes) particularly in the Downtown. He said these are all based on 2030 projected ridership and a certain level of transit funding. However, transit funding is currently decreasing.

Mr. Bishop said the ridership estimates in the Transit Master Plan are based on the BKR (Bellevue-Kirkland-Redmond) model, which is based on the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) model. Many variables go into travel forecasting, and the critical one for transit is parking rates in the areas expected to have high-density development. Bus ridership has been shown to be very sensitive to parking rates, and the transit running way projects are based on high transit ridership.

Mr. Bishop said all of the running way projects are concepts, and every concept must be assessed through an individual operational analysis before it becomes a CIP project and is funded. His red flag is that when operational studies of transit running projects are conducted, careful consideration should be given to realistic bus ridership and funding levels.

Commissioner Bishop opined that the Bellevue College project (L-27) can be justified on the current transit ridership without waiting for projections. Mr. Bishop said the project should be part of the City's 2015-2016 funding window.

4. Scott Lampe, Transportation Commissioner, commended staff on their work on the Transit Master Plan and recommended Council approval. The plan appropriately focuses on frequent transit service to heavy demand areas including the Downtown, Crossroads, Factoria, and Eastgate/Bellevue College. The plan provides a new metric of person throughput to measure the effectiveness rather than relying solely on perhaps more arbitrary transportation mode split targets and level of service guidelines that have been used in the past.

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Mr. Lampe said the framework used for the plan provides a basis for engaging with other Eastside communities including Kirkland, Redmond, Issaquah to influence regional decisions on how to best deploy the entire Eastside's resources to provide an optimal, multi-modal transportation system. The plan forecasts continued strong growth in transit usage. Over the past 10 years, Bellevue has experienced 133 percent growth in transit usage.

Mr. Lampe said the Transportation Commission will remain vigilant to ensure that future transit ridership forecasts are reasonable. He reiterated his support for the Bellevue Transit Master Plan.

Public Hearing testimony:

1. Vic Bishop, representing West Lake Sammamish Association, presented a petition from residents interested in completing improvements to the parkway. As of noon July 7, 106 residents have signed the petition. Requested funding design money for Phase 2 in 2015-2021 CIP Plan. He also noted that the Cascade Bicycle Club, representing 16,000 members, supported sidewalks and bike lanes from SE Allen Road to 150th Ave SE.
2. Barbara Spindell thanked Mayor and Council for opportunity to participate in budget hearing. Said she first addressed Council on Dec 3, 2012 about need for sidewalks along Newport Way. She noted the attendees in audience in support of the sidewalk project. She listed others who support/endorse the project - three school PTAs, Somerset Community Association, others, Aldersgate Church, Bellevue Library Board, FeetFirst, etc.
3. Randall Brown, a Somerset resident and block captain, read an endorsement for Newport Way sidewalk project and roadway improvements from Cascade Bicycle Club.
4. Diana Thompson, representing the Bellevue Network on Aging, encouraged the Council to consider looping technology for hearing assistance in City facilities. She understands that staff is researching the issue. She said looping has been used for some time in England and Scandinavia, and its use is expanding in the United States. She noted Seattle looped facilities, as well as City Council chambers around the country that have been looped. She asked Council to include funds in the budget to implement looping.
5. Kate Johnston said she is profoundly hard of hearing and the mother of a 21-year-old son with autism. She described her son's involvement in Bellevue Youth Theater and their enjoyment of going to theater performances. She said the FM devices provided at City facilities do not generally work and have lots of static.
6. Linda Pawson, associated with the Bellevue Arts Museum, spoke about the effectiveness of looping technology for the hearing impaired. She said the museum's Operations Manager, Chris Degrazia, would be able to provide more information.

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7. Cheri Perazzoli, spoke on behalf of the Hearing Loss Association of WA. She noted there are a number of listening devices with varying levels of effectiveness and ease of use. She advocated for the universal adoption of looping technology in public buildings as the most effective hearing-assistive systems.
8. Patrick Bannon, BDA, said the Downtown Transportation Plan and Downtown Livability Initiative have a number of issues, including the shared objective of providing sufficient parking in Old Bellevue. Looks forward to July 28 budget workshop.
9. Chris Jordan, spoke earlier, commented on potential Bellevue Way HOV project that includes adding sidewalk along west side of Bellevue Way. Opposed to sidewalk and noted there is one on east side.
10. Steve Kasner said Neighborhood Outreach staff is doing a great job of working with residents of the Downtown and other areas with strong neighborhood associations. However, many residents are not represented by neighborhood associations. He encouraged further outreach to enhance citizen involvement. He spoke in favor of the artwork-wrapped utilities boxes around town that have appeared to prevented graffiti on those objects.
11. Dallas Evans, co-chair of the Parks and Community Services Commission, lives on West Lake Sammamish Parkway, said he appreciates the improvements completed to date, including the separation of the pedestrian walkway from traffic. Requested funding for Phase 2, which he opined is more straightforward than subsequent phases. Phase 1 was great addition and changed his mind about the overall project.
12. Margaret Nichol talked about proposed HOV lane on Bellevue Way SE. Residents have all along thought lane would come up to the “Y” Intersection of Bellevue Way and 112th Avenue SE. However, the plan now shows it going to almost SE 16th Street. Concerned about loss of Triangle pool facility. Noted lack of communication with neighborhood.
13. Barb Lyle is also concerned about Bellevue Way SE HOV lane. Believes decisions are being made perhaps by those who will not be affected by project.

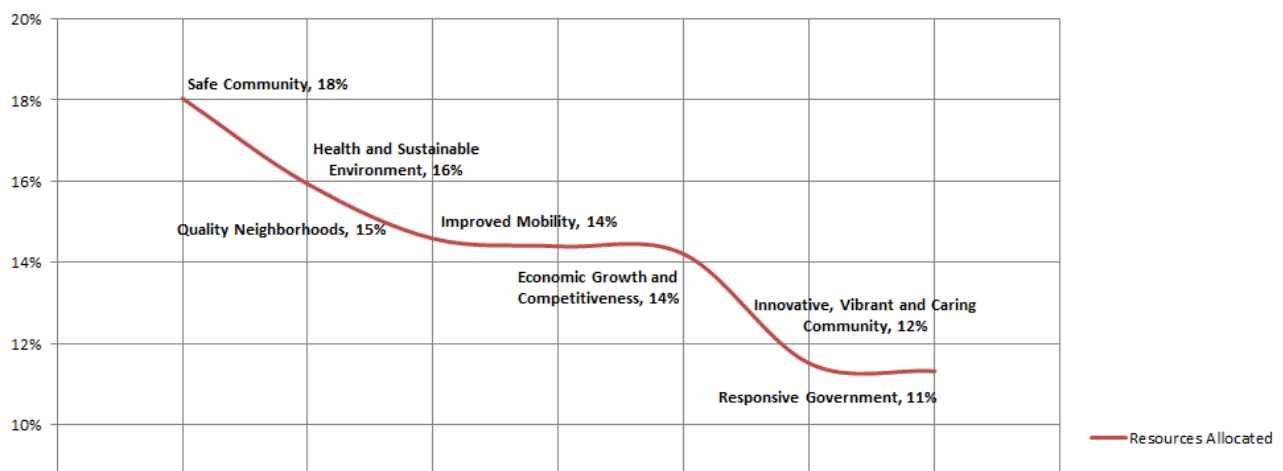
Neighborhood Leadership Gathering Meeting Summary March 3, 2014

On February 27, the Neighborhood Outreach team hosted a Neighborhood Leadership Gathering which assembled over 60 neighborhood leaders, invited to share their priorities for the City budget and their neighborhoods for the coming year. There was great representation from neighborhoods across Bellevue, the East Bellevue Community Council, established neighborhood associations and newly formed neighborhood associations. Finance Director Jan Hawn and Assistant Finance Director Toni Rezab presented an overview of Bellevue's Budget One process. The Neighborhood Leadership Gathering had a three-fold purpose: to introduce our neighborhood leaders to the Budget One process and solicit their input on budget priorities, to obtain a better assessment of where our neighborhood leaders will invest their time in the coming year, and to provide information on upcoming Outreach programs, classes and events.

Bellevue's Budget One process obtains results in seven different outcome areas. Neighborhood leaders were provided ten dots (each one representing 10 percent of their total budget) and asked to distribute them to the outcome areas where they wish to allocate the resources. The outcome areas included Safe Community, Improved Mobility, Healthy and Sustainable Environment, Innovative, Vibrant and Caring Community, Quality Neighborhoods, Responsive Government and Economic Growth and Competitiveness. The distribution of dots indicated that neighborhood leaders allocated their resources in the following areas:

- 18% 94 dots, Safe Community
- 16% 83 dots, Healthy and Sustainable Environment
- 15% 76 dots, Quality Neighborhoods
- 14% 75 dots, Improved Mobility
- 14% 74 dots, Economic Growth and Competitiveness
- 12% 60 dots, Innovative, Vibrant and Caring Community
- Community 11% 59 dots, Responsive Government

Allocation of Resource Exercise Neighborhood Leadership Gathering



During this gathering, neighborhood leaders also shared their priorities and concerns. There was a general discussion about the importance of “Responsive Government” – and although it ranked lower in the budget exercise, it was underscored that it does not reflect its relative importance to neighborhood leaders. Neighborhood leaders stressed their appreciation of the high level of city responsiveness to their concerns and the need for improvement by city staff to respond to neighborhood concerns.

The general discussion covered a range of topics, including improving neighborhood walkability, concern about water pollution and run-off, and a need for a Bellevue Fire Station for Downtown. There was concern that the data collected through the All City Survey (used to inform the budgeting process) better reflect the socio-economic diversity of Bellevue and neighborhood representation in the sample size. Neighborhood leaders appreciated the budget presentation by Finance Director Jan Hawn and Assistant Finance Director, Toni Rezab and the ability to contribute their input to the Budget Process. Submitted written comments (see Attachment #1) highlight budget priorities from neighborhood leaders.

The remainder of the Leadership Gathering focused on identifying the top priorities and issues that neighborhood leaders will be working on in the coming year. Submitted written priorities are attached (see Attachment #2). Neighborhood leaders were asked to submit an annual Neighborhood Association registration form to assist the City in knowing their boundaries and current contact information. Announcements highlighted opportunities for neighborhood groups to participate in upcoming classes, connecting to the Planning Commission’s work on the Comprehensive Plan, and Neighborhood Outreach programs like Neighborhood Match and Neighbor Link. As a result of this meeting there were:

- 8** Requests for information on Neighbor Link activities
- 12** Requests for information on Neighborhood Match projects
- 14** Requests for information on Neighborhood Association Organizing
- 10** Requests for information on Bellevue Essentials

Attachment #1
Budget Priorities: Submitted Comments
Neighborhood Leadership Gathering
February 27, 2014

“What are your priorities that the City should consider when preparing the budget?”

Safe Community

- Downtown Fire Station
- Coordinate “Noisy Services Day” to 2-3-Day per week (i.e. Blowers, mowers, edger, cleaners, saws, road work, etc.)
- Please stop eliminating jobs. You can’t say Public Safety is important while cutting police and fire positions.
- Crime prevention/safety/united neighborhoods
- Neighborhood – training for homeowners, for security
- Security in neighborhoods (burglaries, speeding cars...)
- Increase police-citizen effort /cooperation to improve neighborhood safety and security.
- Efficiency. When someone calls 9-1-1 with medical emergency, up to 3 fire trucks and ambulance show up. Why?? Our neighbors were burglarized and they waited for over 1 hour for a single police car to show up. Seems disproportionate.
- Security
- Safety; police, fire
- Downtown fire station
- More police car/bike patrols during the day in neighborhoods
- Always police and fire
- Public Safety
- Greater police presence in neighborhoods – too many speeders!
- Security patrols
- Neighborhood safety
- Neighborhood safety
 - Improve police response time
- Fire and police – we need a downtown fire station including a 3rd ladder truck. We need more manpower on the BPD to deal with crime – solving crime.

Healthy and Sustainable Environment

- “Keep Ashwood Park Green”
- Cost of water and King County Waste
- Clean water
- That all city purchases be for sustainable goods and services. Have products ranked by level of sustainability For Bellevue government to buy unsustainable products is like the bank guard robbing the bank.
- Maintain the quality of water and water infrastructure system
- Dredge Meydenbauer Bay
- Clean out ravines of invasive growth (security)
- Continue water and lines upgrades to Lake Heights
- Maintain green spaces to be accessible to all.
- Keep grass/weeds growing in public areas of Lake Heights – I’m lucky to get one cutting per year.
- Limit house footprints to sustain tree canopy
- Water run-off is polluting our waterways – need to develop rain garden expertise
- Stop wasting water on lawns - Except for sports areas

Quality Neighborhoods

- Walkable neighborhoods
- Community gathering places
- Community center in downtown Bellevue, by library with pool
- If the City wants to build a community center Downtown, choose a location other than Ashwood Park. Open green space is very scarce Downtown, and we need to keep what we have in order to support a healthy lifestyle in our densely populated area.
- Open up SW corner of NE 4th St./Bellevue Way to create community gathering area, possibly permanent ice skating rink, so we don't lose pond 3 months per year – provides area close to shopping and Bellevue Collection; keep it close to Snowflake Lane, shopping, etc.
- Our city is growing in diversity and it is very important for our community to build trust and relations. In order for our community to build relations and bridge the linguistic and cultural gap, we need to increase funding for the outreach program that made it possible for Cultural Conversations to merge and transform our community! Lack of this funding will increase fear and isolation in our growing diverse community.
- Creation of community gathering spaces – indoor and outdoor, in each neighborhood (events, meetings, rental)
- Re-work the permitting process for neighborhoods when they hold events. Right now, the permitting process is costly, confusing (departments give citizens the runaround) and actually inhibit neighborhood gathering. Neighborhood gatherings are not Symetra Family 4th or the Strawberry Festival' don't make us go through that process.
- Improve enforcement of "monster house" regulations.
- City codes - Don't allow "monster houses" to destroy views, property values, quality of life.
- Community Centers or Teen Center - make one in Newport Hills old Red Apple
- Clean around neighborhoods and within, improve entrances and mobility (lighting in neighborhoods)
- Eliminate graffiti
- Support the neighborhoods around Bellevue College and the impacts in housing and character immediately adjacent to the college.
- Community gathering place and activities
- Preservation of safe, quality, single family neighborhoods are the highest priority
- Vision – for example we now have apartments and condos that have gone up, will be built and we have no community center for the central city
- Establishing more regulations on rental housing to make owners more accountable to laws, appearance, behaviors
- Enabling more proactive power to Code Compliance in dealing (or discovery of) unacceptable home appearances
- View enhancement to protect property values. Right of way of overgrown trees.
- Bellevue "third place" park development at Bellevue Way and 20th N.
- "Northtowne Signs" at Bellevue/Northtowne Entry points
- Neighborhood pride results in increased awareness and participation by residents in programs (and leadership). Let's focus on this fundamental goal. Improvements like sidewalks, underground power, safety, helping hand programs, signage, street sweeping, rain collection all increase pride.
- A community center next to the library, with a pool, make them one start and a connection to the library.
- Sell the N. Bellevue Community Center; it is a block from Redmond and attended by 30% of Redmond citizens

Improved Mobility

- Underground parking garage at NE corner of NE 1st St. and 102nd Ave. NE, under current parking lot – need more parking!!!
- Reduce speed to 15mph on NE 1st St., between 100th and 102nd Ave. NE and add speed bump at crosswalk to stop racing and speeding...it's bad
- We would like the city to solve the over flow parking issue at Robinswood Tennis Center that leads to a lot of parking on 153rd Ave. SE.
- The Robinswood Community wants speed bumps in our neighborhood!!!
- Smart Transit – Current transit is a disincentive. Takes about 45 minutes to an hour to get from 172nd Ave. and NE 8th St. to downtown. Frequency is poor. Have to pay 2 fares to get into Seattle because we have 2 systems (Bellevue Transit & Sound Transit). It's cheaper to drive to Seattle early, get early bird fare for parking
- Improve mobility, repair and install sidewalks and continue to install bicycle lanes. Please consider continuing the contiguous bicycle and pedestrian corridors. Fix integrity of arterial and neighborhood roads. The intersection at Eastgate Way and 156th, the potholes are atrocious. Really bad. I'd like a little more lighting along trails, too.
- The loss of bus services throughout residence areas causes more to take to the car which impacts mobility.
- Walkable neighborhoods
- Sidewalks
- Mass transit
- Sidewalk on North side of SE 24 between 145th and 148 (Hidden Village Apts)
- Improved paving, roads, sidewalks throughout the East Bellevue community
- Traffic flow – light sink
- Traffic flow – lessen the gridlocks that occur
- Flashing lights at the crosswalks in front of Sammamish High
- Traffic must be reduced. Study impact of city busses that stop cars and backup traffic
- Improve downtown city traffic flow
- Develop city's section of the rail line for biking/walking
- Preservation and expansion for auto-mobility would be next.
- Walkable neighborhoods
- 108th Ave. developed as a "skinny street" from 12th to 24th
- Re-engineering of street traffic situation at 112th, 24th and "New" Hidden Valley Park!
- Traffic improvement
- Safe and healthy pedestrian walkways
- 112th and 24th intersection
- Less traffic – more, easier public transportation
- Sidewalks, speed bumps, speed radars
- Traffic
- Transportation – help us get out of our cars – need bus/bike/ride share – congestion is unacceptable
- Pursue the West Lake Sammamish Parkway restoration project (next phases now that phase 1 is complete).
- Increased street side maintenance (brush cutting, tree trimming, etc.) currently several Woodridge/Norwood/ 123rd Ave. areas are only 1 x/year. Would like 3x per year.
- I would like to see consideration of the disproportion of city funds allocated to the downtown core versus the rest of the city. Example is the investment in the quality of downtown roads versus the shabby condition in the outer residential neighborhoods.

- Gondolas to get people moving around the city. Gondolas for center city, hospital, Sound Transit stations
- Covered waiting stations with seats for the busses

Economic Growth and Competitiveness

- Support local business
- Entire streets get paved, then cut up and dug up to bury something just after it's done; how about some coordination??
- City wide broadband coverage to attract and maintain businesses to Bellevue
- Plan to put underground current above ground power lines – much of the city looks like “India” on eastside in particular
- More low income housing.
- Rainy day reserves
- Reliable power – city should increase oversight of PSE
- Get another cable provider- competition would be great!
- 10-20 year plan to bury all overhead wires.
- Density of housing and services
- City hall vending machines should accept credit cards
- Improve Newport Hills business district
- Business development in Newport Hills
- Affordable housing
- Affordable housing

Innovative, Vibrant and Caring Community

- Continue park development
- Downtown green spaces maintained and Ashwood Park specifically improved with benches, tables, adult and child oriented activities, trees, walking path around the perimeter
- Maintain the high quality of our parks
- The creation of a vibrant community is going to have to deal with the challenges of diversity from many Asian cultures.
- Quality and diversity of our Parks; adds to the environmental quality and to the neighborhood quality at the same time. Keep existing area parks – do not allow a concrete jungle.
- Parks – including fields
- Robinswood Park bathrooms at play area
- Aquatic Center improvement – 50 meter pool
- More \$ to animal control @ COB parks!!
- Preserve green space
- Help our children – hunger, housing, before/after school care
- Encourage food saving – sharing in neighborhoods and in public places

Responsive Government

- When people cannot speak English well, it is hard to hear voices of those who are isolated. Please remember to focus on newcomers. They are in Bellevue, too.
- Local neighborhood data gathering appears to be useless
- Review of budget for waste, projects that are not necessary
- Code compliance, plus setting codes to keep neighborhoods clean, safe, attractive
- Waste. If the city has a waste prevention office reviewing city contracting, a lot of money could be saved to spend on needed projects. I have seen hundreds of thousands

of \$\$ spent on hiring out of town consultants to study issues, that could be better studied by Bellevue citizens committees for free.

- Clear directions on subdividing properties and what happens when zoning changes take effect.
- Code enforcement needs appropriate staffing and resources to stop the building/remodeling without permits and to enforce the emergency ordinance limiting # of unrelated renters.
- Looking into other states/countries to see what innovative things they might be doing successfully executing
- We need a proper sampling by neighborhood to determine priorities for that neighborhood.
 - Lower economic neighborhoods tend not to answer/have access
 - Younger people do not answer phones
 - Older people do not feel heard - so they blow it off
- Better sampling of the surveying when determining the budget.

Feb 27, 2014

To the City of Bellevue,

I am a member of the cultural conversations women's group sponsored by the City of Bellevue. This is a diverse group of women who are from all over the world making a connection in the group, discussing the various cultures represented and continuing to build on our friendships outside of our group meetings once a month. It is very important to all of us to be included in the city's budget so we can continue to meet and add new people. We meet a need for women to connect and make friends especially when new to Bellevue.

Thank you for all the good work you do for our community and beyond. Sincerely,

Jane G York

Attachment #2
Neighborhood Priorities: Submitted Comments
Neighborhood Leadership Gathering
February 27, 2014

“What are the top priorities/issues you want to see addressed in your neighborhood?”

Neighborhood Safety

- Safety/Crime Prevention
- Safety – I’m in NH Townhomes and we are receiving car prowls every month.
- Block watch organization, 100% participation, door to door
- Police and citizen joint efforts for neighborhood security
- Increased traffic law enforcement
- Clean out ravines – invasive growth allows robbers to hide and get away. (B of A robbed in Newport Hills 3X and closed)
- Safety from break-ins.
- Burglaries of homes
- Safety, crime, speeding cars
- Safe & Healthy pedestrian walkways

Building Community

- Programming/events at community third places (park, businesses, swim club, school, churches) that will bring neighbors together
- More connections in bridging cultural gaps in our growing diverse community!
- Next Door coordination
- Getting the Lake Hills Neighborhood Assoc. back into business!
- We are still trying to engage other cultures who appear introverted. Won’t answer the door, telephone, drive in and out of the garage.
- Diversity in our community – getting people involved!
- Bellevue should not organize neighborhoods – it’s the fox guarding the henhouse

Neighborhood Improvement

- Tyler Property Park! Basic upgrades to create community gathering space
- Ashwood Park developed with permanent activities, benches, tables, shade trees, walking path, etc.
- Bellevue Way @ 20th as “third place”
- Park development @ Bellevue Wy. & 20th St.
- Community gathering places and activities (Newport Hills)

Neighborhood Character & Identity

- Identification of our neighborhood with a community sign on the south access to the neighborhood
- Vibrancy – Our shopping center is limping along; more engagement, including a “City Center” with an information kiosk and a banner pole to install announcements would be wonderful.
- Separating West Bellevue Community Club into 3 separate neighborhoods

- Neighborhood visibility within the context of the city, adjacent neighborhoods, shopping/commercial areas.
- “Northtowne signs” at multiple Bellevue/Northtowne entry points

Neighborhood Transportation Concerns

- Less Traffic on 128th St. SE between 32nd St., to Woodridge Elementary School.
- Reduce speed on NE 1st St., between NE 100th and 102nd Ave. NE and add speed bump – racing occurs on this road weekly!
- Robinswood Tennis Center overflow problem on 153rd Ave. SE. There are 10-20 cars parked every day from 9 – 3.
- Speeding issues through Robinswood from cars by passing 5-way stop on 156th.
- Improved transit
- Traffic – we are now working with the transportation department
- NE 24th, 112th, Hidden Valley severe traffic engineering mash-up
- 108th Ave. developed as “skinny street” from 12th to 24th
- Lake Hills; sidewalks and walkability
- Paving
- Sidewalk on S. Side of Hidden Village Apartments SE 24th
- Complete sidewalks
- Gentle speed bump on SE 145 (people looking for Bellevue College realize they are lost and race to get back to the intersection)
- One of our top priorities for Somerset west 130th Ave. SE (from Newport Way South to about 50th Ave. SE) is the completion of the sidewalk along 130th. We also feel very strong that our neighborhood retain our R5 zoning south of Newport Way.
- 112th and 24th intersection reworked
- Traffic – the line-up on Lakemont Blvd. after 4:30 p.m.; Sometimes a mile long line up at the stop sign at Lakemont & 164th.
- Sammamish Parkway restoration project.

Advocacy

- Changing permitting process to make neighborhood gatherings easier to organize
- “Keep Ashwood Park Green” Open green space is a vital part of healthy living in our downtown neighborhood.
- Coordinate noise to be 3 days or 2 days per week (i.e. leaf blowing, lawn mowing, leaf mulching, garbage, street cleaning, carpet cleaning trucks, road work, etc.)
- Budget transparency
- We need more benefits from city revenue dollars. By making sustainable purchases you greatly expand your dollar impact.
- Enforcing ordinances; like “Spiritwood” emergency ordinance
- Code Compliance; re: density and boarding houses – code compliance should not be only by complaint.
- Regulations and control of rental homes; single room rentals
- Increased powers in code compliance to act without waiting for complaints
- Regulate rental housing. Have a registration making renters part of public records,

just as homeowners are.

- Keep single family neighborhoods intact. Eliminate single room rentals. Revert to boarding house rules; off street parking, etc
- Continue water and connectivity upgrades to Lake Heights
- Business development in Newport Hills
- Improve business district of Newport Hills
- Upkeep of City public areas – weeds
- Limit house footprints so tree canopy can be retained
- Our neighborhood is affected by all of these: Eastside Rail Corridor, PSE Transmission lines, I-405 expansion and Sound Transit high speed rail or Bus rapid transit and that is the Lake Lanes Neighborhood. We exist from the Seahawks facility in Renton, North through King County on Ripley and the Lake Lanes in Bellevue of Hazelwood, Pleasure Point, Lakehurst, Bagley Lanes and Lake Wa Blvd South. This is a LOT of public good to expect one neighborhood to take on.
- Stop wasting years of staff time on planning initiatives for our neighborhoods that staff has already predetermined the outcomes on. You not only waste our taxes, but waste our time and lives. Retrain staff!
- Eliminate staff pensions – they can do 401K's like normal people. That will reduce our taxes and put the \$ into real services.